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On: OCTOBER EGG PRODUCTION UP 9 PERCENT FROM A YEAR AGO

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Austin...October egg production in Texas totaled 437 million eggs, up 9 percent from October 2005, and up 5 percent from September 2006, according to the monthly report released by the Texas Field Office.

The number of layers during October averaged 18.8 million, up 6 percent from last year and up slightly from September 2006. Egg production per 100 layers averaged 2.325 eggs, up 3 percent from last year and up 5 percent from last month.

Texas hatchery production of broiler-type chicks in October totaled 53.7 million, up 3 percent from last year.

United States egg production totaled 7.67 billion eggs during October 2006, up slightly from last year. Production included 6.6 billion table eggs, 1.0 billion broiler-type hatching eggs and 67 million egg-type hatching eggs.

Nationally, the total number of layers averaged 344 million during October 2006, up slightly from last year. Production per 100 layers was 2,231 eggs, down slightly from October 2005.

The U.S. monthly hatch of egg-type chicks totaled 36.3 million, up 2 percent from October 2005. The hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 772 million, was down 1 percent from October of last year.

The leading U.S. breeders placed 6.74 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during October 2006, down 3 percent from October 2005.